

REMARKS

Claims 14-21 and 25-29 are pending. Claims 14-21, 25, and 26 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Swanson et al (6,113,612) and claims 27-29 were allowed.¹ By this Amendment, claims 14 and 18-21 have been canceled and claims 15-17 and 25-26 have been amended to depend from allowable independent claim 27.² Accordingly, claims 15-17 and 25-29 are presented and Applicant respectfully submits that they are allowable because dependent claims 15-17, 25-26, and 28-29 all depend from an allowable independent claim, claim 27.

In view of the foregoing, Applicant respectfully submits that the other rejections to the claims are now moot and do not, therefore, need to be addressed individually at this time. It will be appreciated, however, that this should not be construed as Applicant acquiescing to any of the purported teachings or assertions made in the last action regarding the cited art or the pending application, including any official notice. Instead, Applicant reserves the right to challenge any of the purported teachings or assertions made in the last action at any appropriate time in the future, should the need arise.

For at least the foregoing reasons, Applicant respectfully submits that the pending claims are neither anticipated by nor made obvious by the art of record. In the event that the Examiner finds any remaining impediment to a prompt allowance of this application that may be clarified through a telephone interview, the Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned attorney.

Dated this 30th day of May, 2008.

Respectfully submitted,

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¹ Although the prior art status of the cited art is not being challenged at this time, Applicant reserves the right to challenge the prior art status of the cited art at any appropriate time, should the need arise. Accordingly, any arguments and amendments made herein should not be construed as acquiescing to any prior art status of the cited art.

² Support for the claim amendments can be found throughout the specification and drawings.